Archie 65TH ANNIVERSARY
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THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
Anniversary 2006
15th
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
SEGA
DARKEST STORM
PART 2 OF 3
SPAZ

THE DARKEST STORM
Part Two: ONSET OF THE SQUALL

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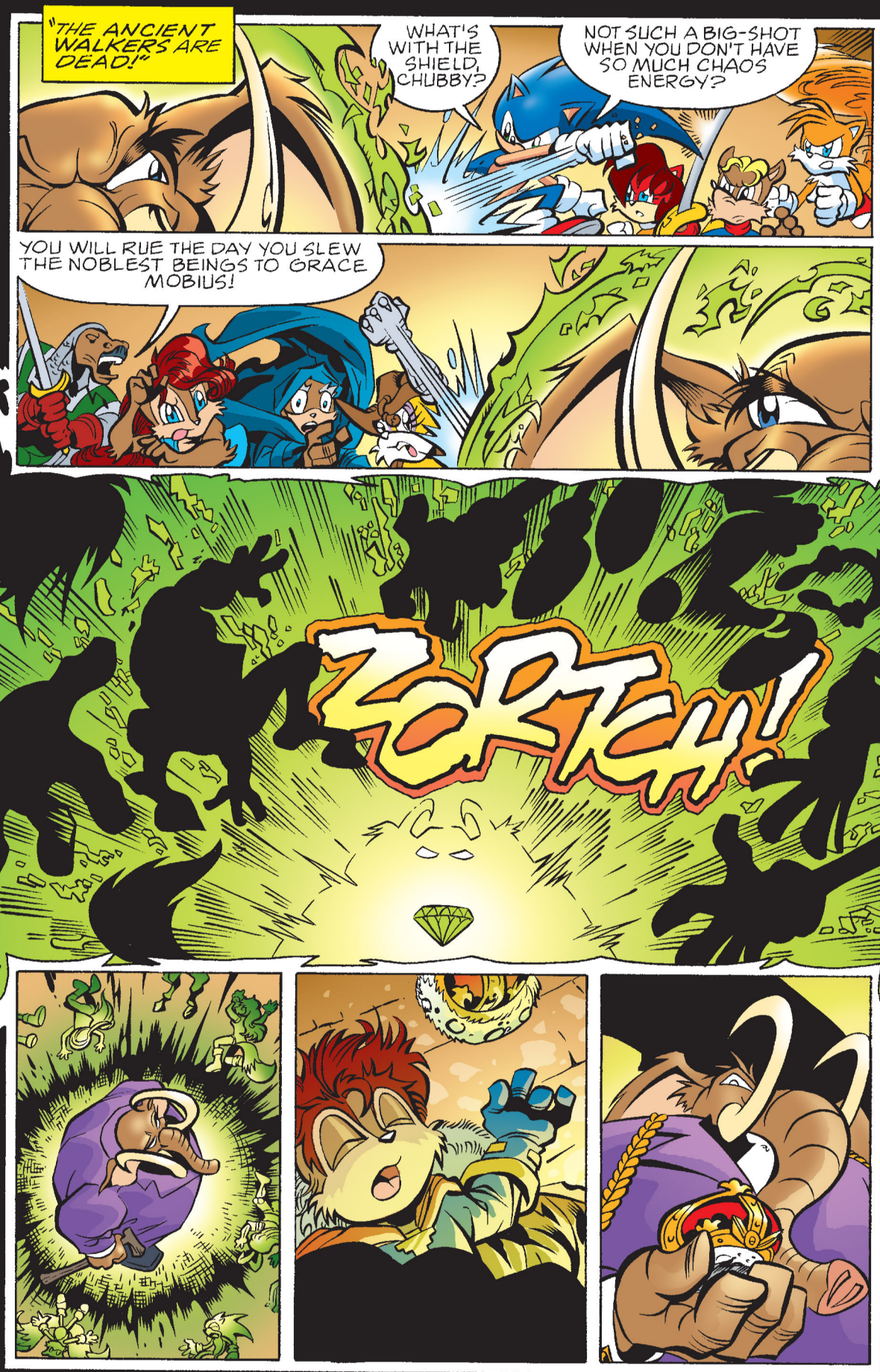
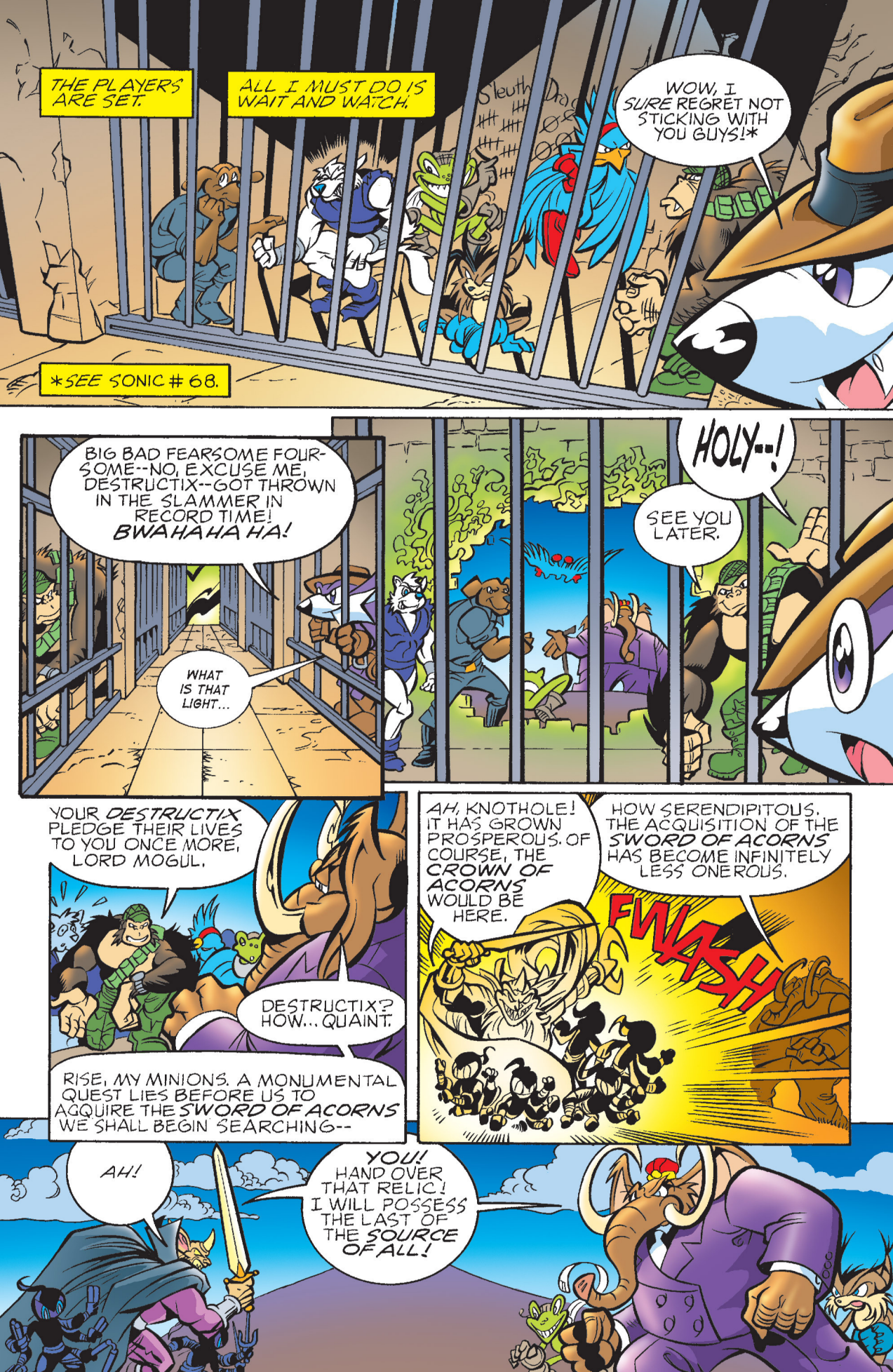
I AM CALLED ANONYMOUS.
I HAVE CATALOGUED EVERY MAJOR THREAT TO SONIC THE HEDGEHOG...
I WILL ENSURE THE MOST POWERFUL THREATS REMAIN...
...SO THAT I MAY DESTROY THEM!
THE FIRST CONTENDER IS--
MAMMOTH MOGUL!
WE HAVE TO TAKE HIM DOWN QUICK!
LIKE I'D DO IT ANY OTHER WAY.
OH, MERCIFUL CHAOS FORCE...!
MERLIN! IF MOGUL IS FREE, THEN THAT MEANS...
I'M AFRAID SO, SIR CONNERY!

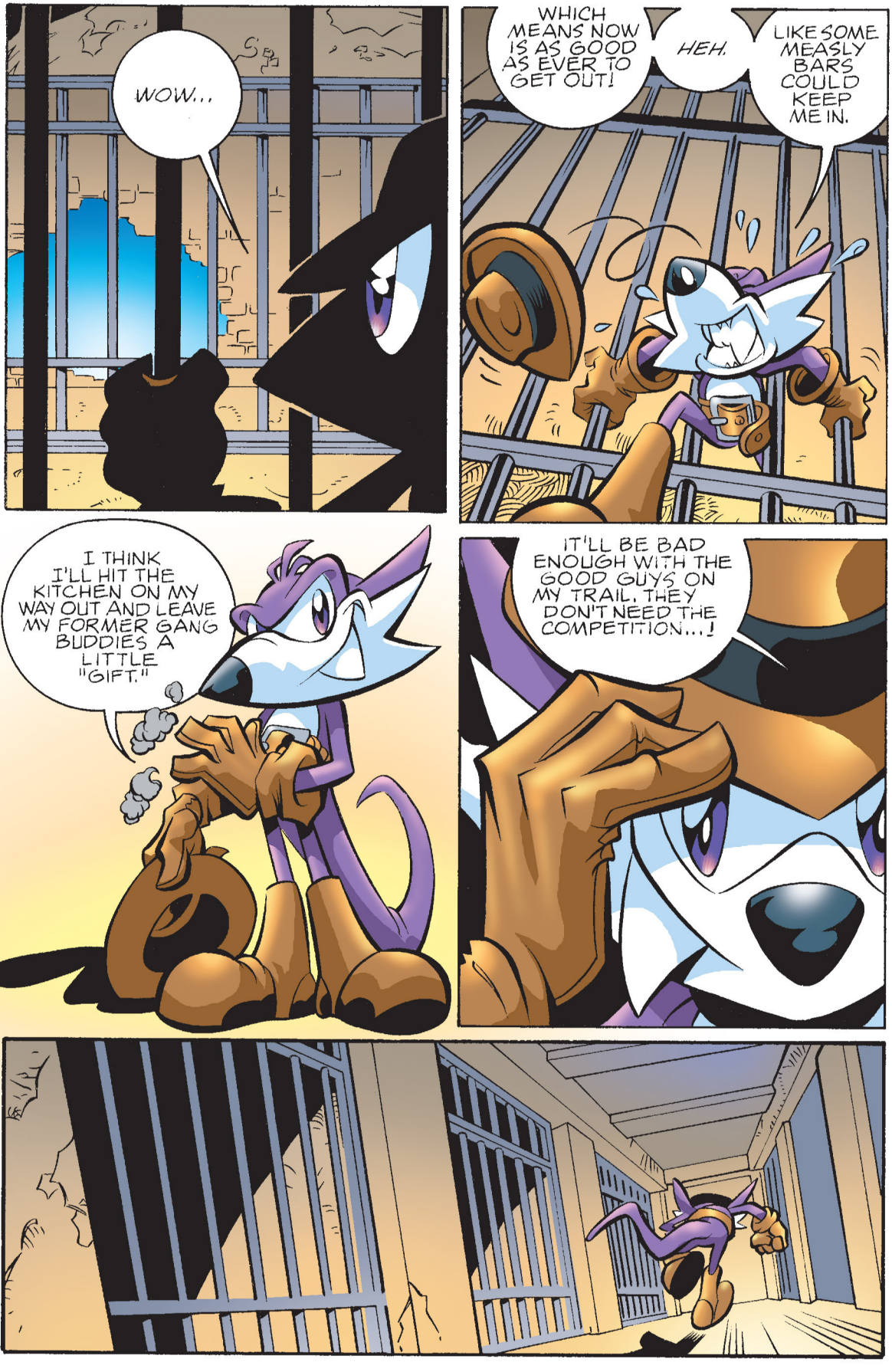

"THE ANCIENT WALKERS ARE DEAD!"
WHAT'S WITH THE SHIELD, CHUBBY?
NOT SUCH A BIG-SHOT WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE SO MUCH CHAOS ENERGY?
YOU WILL RUE THE DAY YOU SLEW THE NOBLEST BEINGS TO GRACE MOBIUS!
ZOOFTAH!

NEW MEGAOPLIS--EGG GRAPE CHAMBER.
MAM.MOTH MOGUL WAS FREED BY THE DEATH OF THE ANCIENT WALKERS.
HAS THE EGG GRAPE CHAMBER COOLED DOWN, A.D.A.M.?
YES, FATHER. I DO NOT THINK YOU WISH TO RETURN JUST YET.
THE ANCIENT WALKERS WERE KILLED BY THE BREACH OF ANOTHER DIMENSION.
OF COURSE YOU DON'T THINK! YOU ANALYZE AND PROCESS! NOW OPEN THAT DOOR!
YES, FATHER!
THE DIMENSIONAL BREACH RELEASED ANOTHER DEADLY PLAYER INTO MY PLANS--
EGAD!
IXIS NAUGUS!
DOCTOR ROBOTNIK, YOU'VE LOST WEIGHT.
M! BE A GOOD GIRL AND ROAST DADDY'S HATED NEMESIS!
WITH PLEASURE, FATHER.

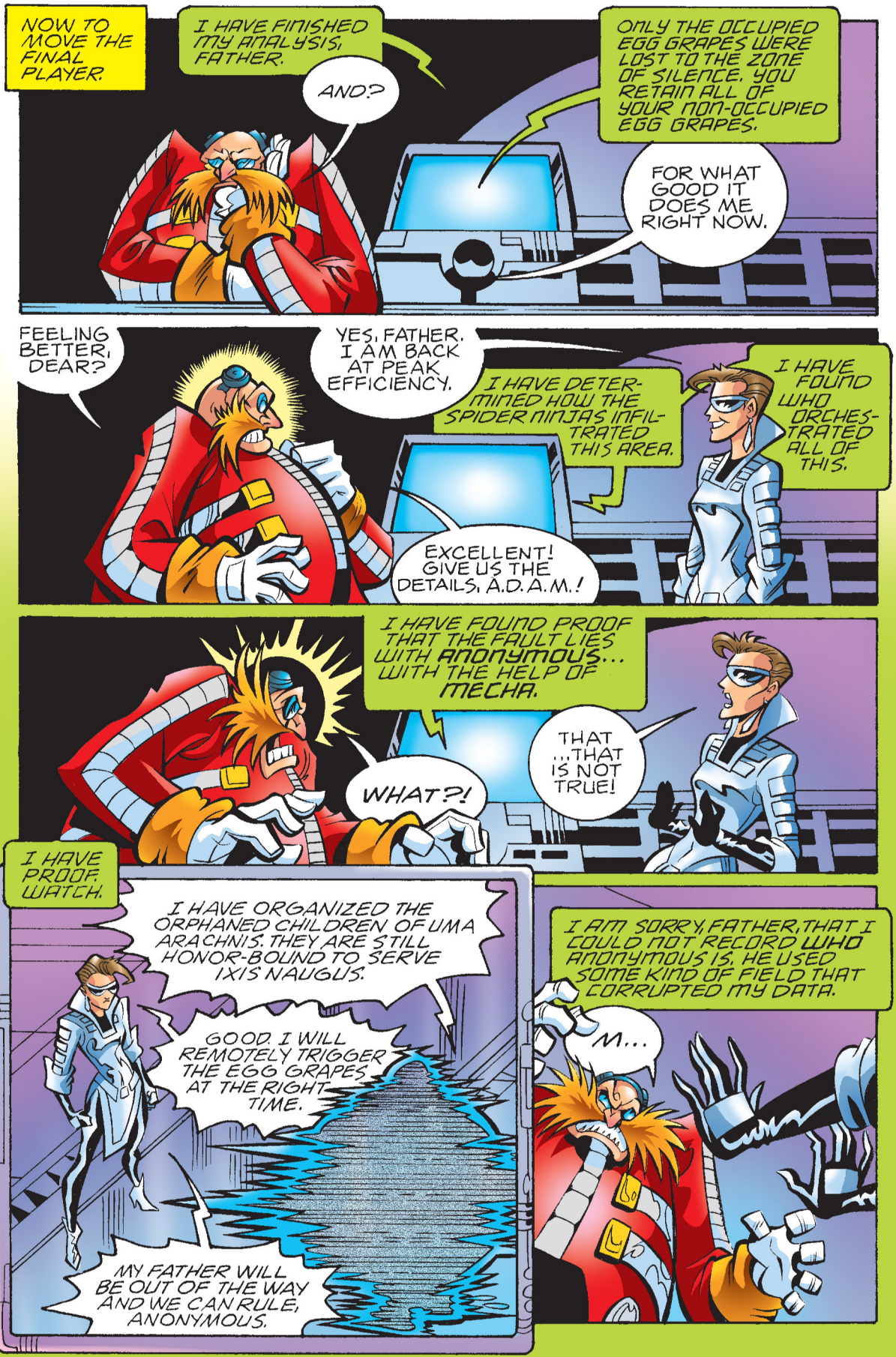
VAPORIZATION. UNEXPECTED, BUT ACCEPTABLE.
YOU CANNOT WOUND A MASTER OF THE ELEMENTS SO EASILY.
ZAKT
YOU CAN NO MORE SHOOT SMOKE--
--THAN YOU CAN BREATHE IN A VACUUM! HA HA HA HA!
ROBOTS DO NOT NEED TO BREATHE.
AH, SO YOU ARE A ROBOT? THEN PERHAPS FREEZING YOUR LUBRICANTS WOULD DO BETTER.
I--
HRZZN
I HAVE NOT RETURNED FOR VENGEANCE JUST YET, ROBOTNIK. ONCE I HAVE FOUND THE MATE TO THE SWORD, MY POWER WILL BE UNRIVALED. THEN WE WILL HAVE OUR RECKONING.
FWASH
HURRY TO THAW, M. DADDY HAS A LOT OF WORK TO DO.
I--HOWEVER-- HAVE DONE MY WORK.

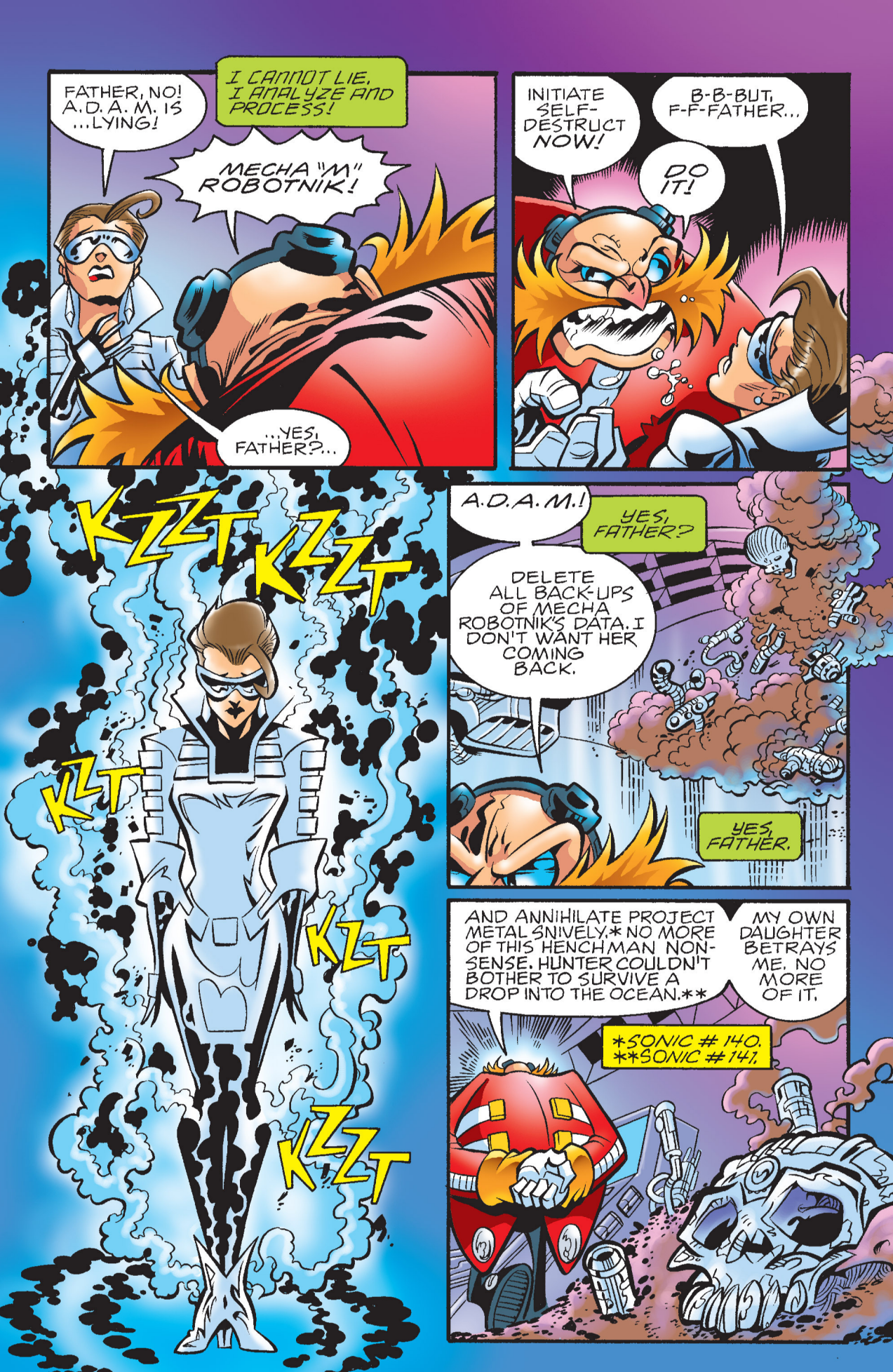

THE PLAYERS ARE SET.
ALL I MUST DO IS WAIT AND WATCH.
WOW, I SURE REGRET NOT STICKING WITH YOU GUYS!*
*SEE SONIC # 68.
BIG BAD FEARSOME FOUR-SOME--NO, EXCUSE ME, DESTRUCTIX--GOT THROWN IN THE SLAMMER IN RECORD TIME! BWAHAHA HA!
WHAT IS THAT LIGHT...
HOLY--!
SEE YOU LATER.
YOUR DESTRUCTIX PLEDGE THEIR LIVES TO YOU ONCE MORE, LORD MOGUL.
DESTRUCTIX? HOW... QUAINT.
RISE, MY MINIONS. A MONUMENTAL QUEST LIES BEFORE US TO ACQUIRE THE SWORD OF ACORNS WE SHALL BEGIN SEARCHING--
AH, KNOTHOLE! IT HAS GROWN PROSPEROUS. OF COURSE, THE CROWN OF ACORNS WOULD BE HERE.
HOW SERENDIPITOUS. THE ACQUISITION OF THE SWORD OF ACORNS HAS BECOME INFINITELY LESS ONEROUS.
FWASH
AH!
YOU! HAND OVER THAT RELIC! I WILL POSSESS THE LAST OF THE SOURCE OF ALL!

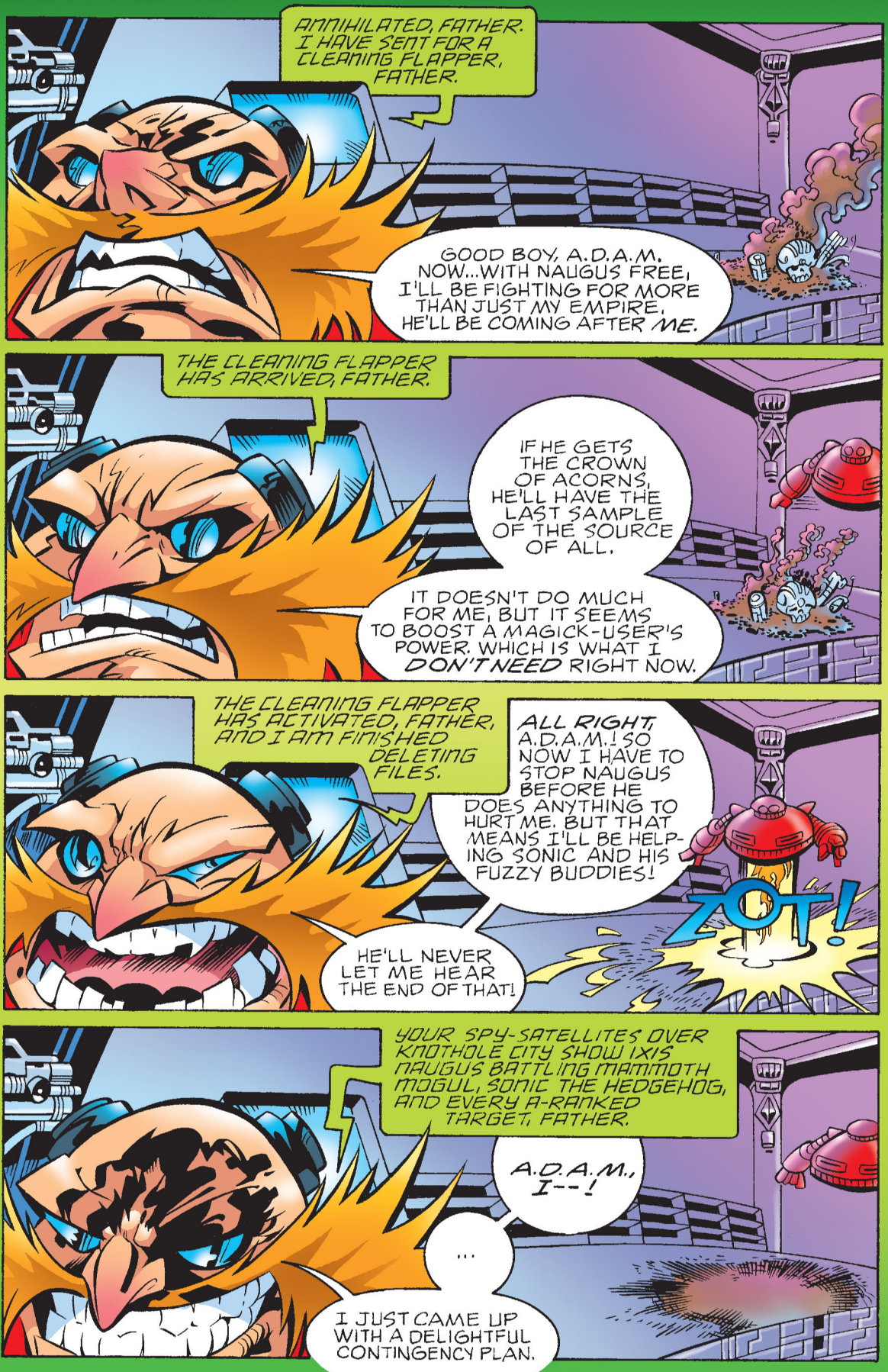
FOOL! I AM IXIS NAUGUS, MASTER OF THE ELEMENTS! HE THAT FUSED THE VOID WITH THE ZONE OF SILENCE! THE LAST GREAT LORD OF THE ORDER OF ISIS!
YOU CANNOT FATHOM HOW INFERIOR YOU ARE IN COMPARISON. NOR ARE YOU THE LAST LORD OF THE ORDER. MY ORDER.
FOR YOUR SAKES, GUYS...
...I HOPE YOU CAN FIGHT AS MUCH AS YOU CAN TALK. WE'LL BE TAKING THOSE BACK NOW, BY THE WAY.


WOW...
WHICH MEANS NOW IS AS GOOD AS EVER TO GET OUT!
HEH.
LIKE SOME MEASLY BARS COULD KEEP ME IN.
I THINK I'LL HIT THE KITCHEN ON MY WAY OUT AND LEAVE MY FORMER GANG BUDDIES A LITTLE "GIFT."
IT'LL BE BAD ENOUGH WITH THE GOOD GUYS ON MY TRAIL. THEY DON'T NEED THE COMPETITION...!

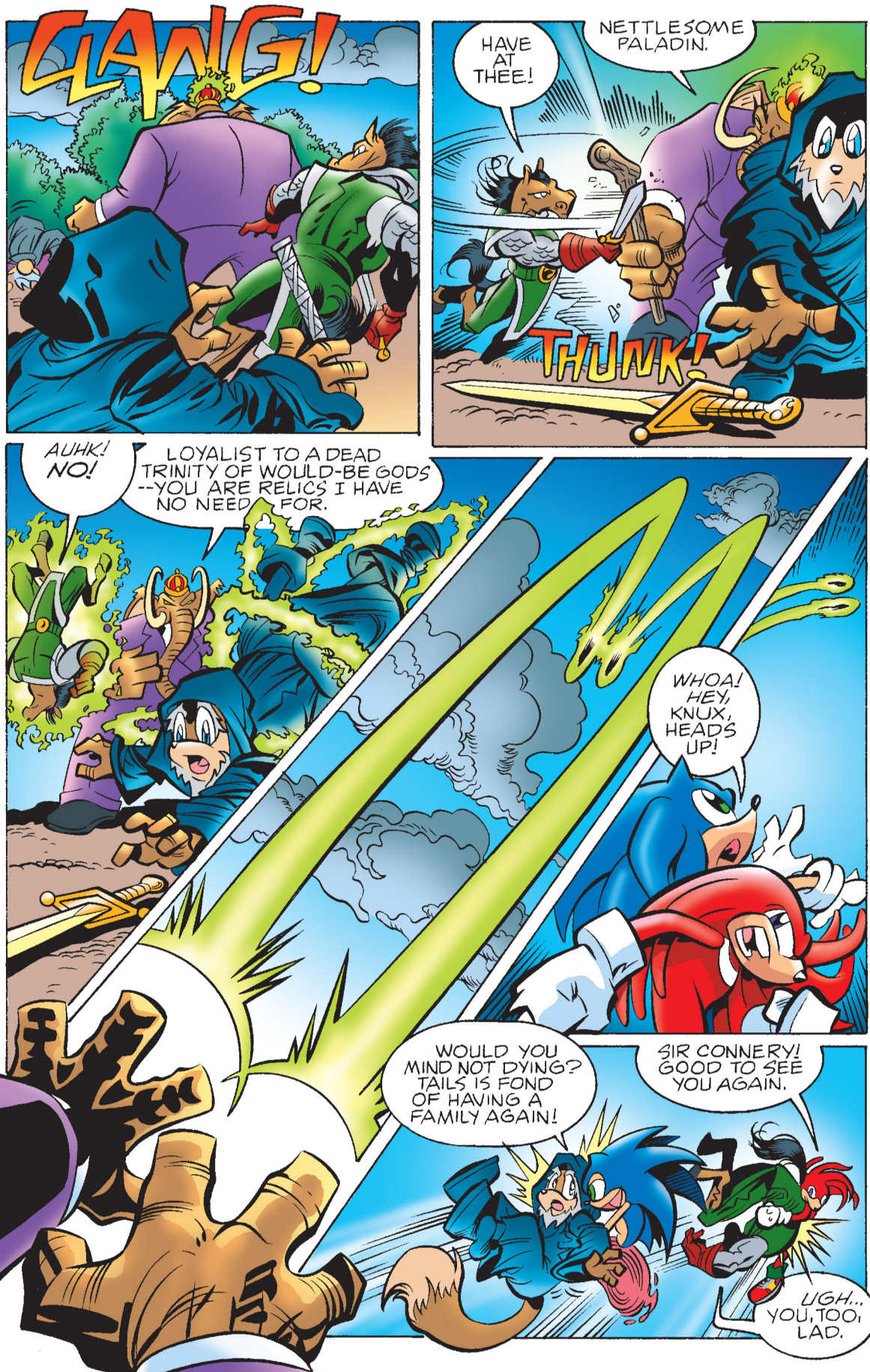
SWEET, SWEET, DISCORD AND STRIFE.

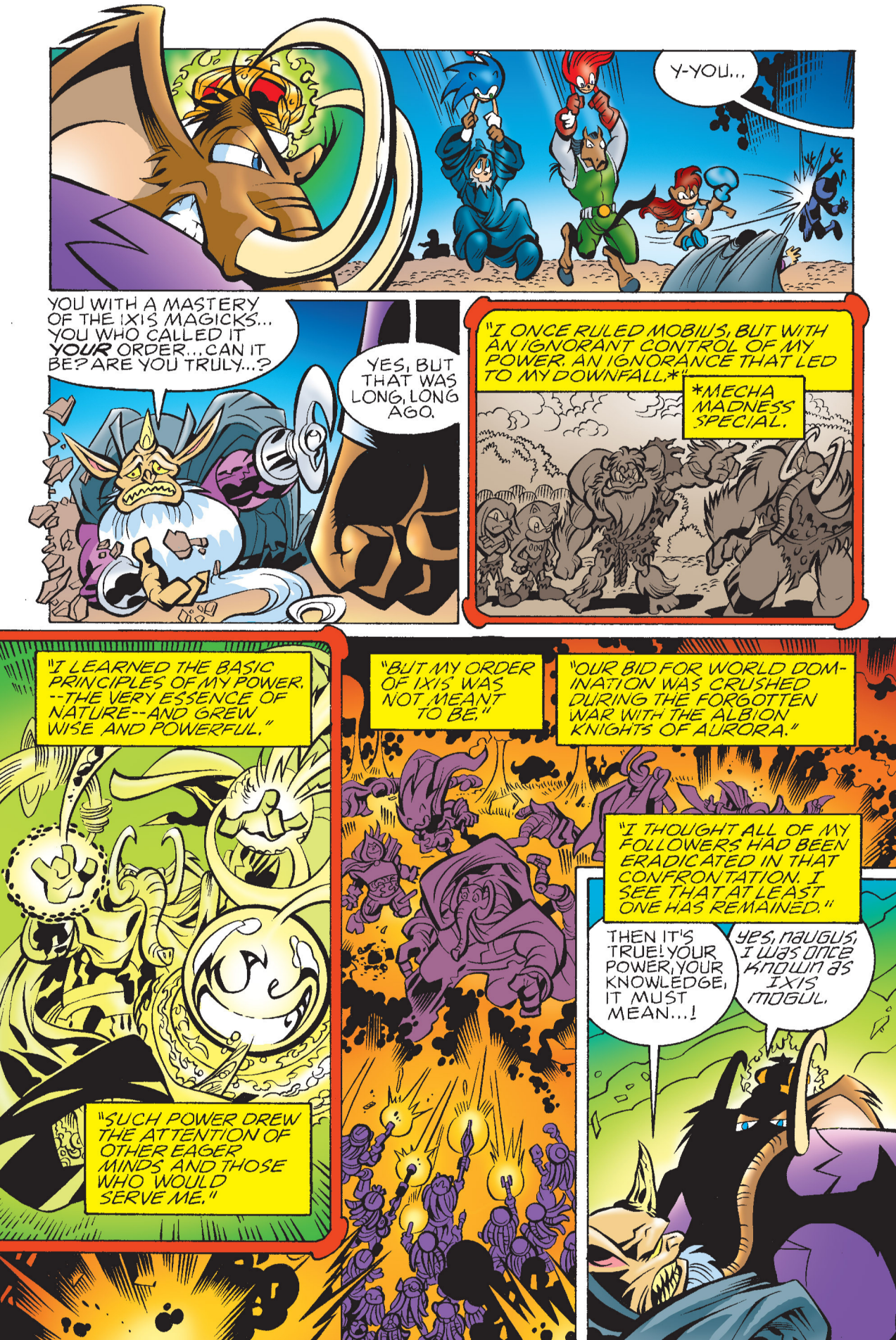

NOW TO MOVE THE FINAL PLAYER.
I HAVE FINISHED MY ANALYSIS, FATHER.
AND?
ONLY THE OCCUPIED EGG GRAPES WERE LOST TO THE ZONE OF SILENCE. YOU RETAIN ALL OF YOUR NON-OCCUPIED EGG GRAPES.
FOR WHAT GOOD IT DOES ME RIGHT NOW.
FEELING BETTER, DEAR?
YES, FATHER. I AM BACK AT PEAK EFFICIENCY.
I HAVE DETERMINED HOW THE SPIDER NINJAS INFILTRATED THIS AREA.
I HAVE FOUND WHO ORCHESTRATED ALL OF THIS.
EXCELLENT! GIVE US THE DETAILS, A.D.A.M.!
I HAVE FOUND PROOF THAT THE FAULT LIES WITH ANONYMOUS... WITH THE HELP OF MECHA.
WHAT?!
THAT ...THAT IS NOT TRUE!
I HAVE PROOF. WATCH.
I HAVE ORGANIZED THE ORPHANED CHILDREN OF UMA ARACHNIS. THEY ARE STILL HONOR-BOUND TO SERVE IXIS NAUGUS.
GOOD. I WILL REMOTELY TRIGGER THE EGG GRAPES AT THE RIGHT TIME.
MY FATHER WILL BE OUT OF THE WAY AND WE CAN RULE, ANONYMOUS.
I AM SORRY, FATHER, THAT I COULD NOT RECORD WHO ANONYMOUS IS. HE USED SOME KIND OF FIELD THAT CORRUPTED MY DATA.
M...


FATHER, NO! A.D.A.M. IS ...LYING!
I CANNOT LIE, I ANALYZE AND PROCESS!
MECHA "M" ROBOTNIK!
...YES, FATHER?..
INITIATE SELF-DESTRUCT NOW!
B-B-BUT, F-F-FATHER...
DO IT!
KZZT
KZZT
KZT
KZT
KZT
KZZT
A.D.A.M.!
YES, FATHER?
DELETE ALL BACK-UPS OF MECHA ROBOTNIK'S DATA. I DON'T WANT HER COMING BACK.
YES, FATHER.
AND ANNIHILATE PROJECT METAL SNIVELY.* NO MORE OF THIS HENCHMAN NONSENSE. HUNTER COULDN'T BOTHER TO SURVIVE A DROP INTO THE OCEAN.**
MY OWN DAUGHTER BETRAYS ME. NO MORE OF IT.
*SONIC # 140.
**SONIC # 141.


ANNIHILATED, FATHER. I HAVE SENT FOR A CLEANING FLAPPER, FATHER.
GOOD BOY, A.D.A.M. NOW...WITH NAUGUS FREE, I'LL BE FIGHTING FOR MORE THAN JUST MY EMPIRE, HE'LL BE COMING AFTER ME.
THE CLEANING FLAPPER HAS ARRIVED, FATHER.
IF HE GETS THE CROWN OF ACORNS, HE'LL HAVE THE LAST SAMPLE OF THE SOURCE OF ALL.
IT DOESN'T DO MUCH FOR ME, BUT IT SEEMS TO BOOST A MAGICK-USER'S POWER. WHICH IS WHAT I DON'T NEED RIGHT NOW.
THE CLEANING FLAPPER HAS ACTIVATED, FATHER, AND I AM FINISHED DELETING FILES.
ALL RIGHT, A.D.A.M.! SO NOW I HAVE TO STOP NAUGUS BEFORE HE DOES ANYTHING TO HURT ME. BUT THAT MEANS I'LL BE HELPING SONIC AND HIS FUZZY BUDDIES!
ZOT!
HE'LL NEVER LET ME HEAR THE END OF THAT!
YOUR SPY-SATELLITES OVER KNOTHOLE CITY SHOW IXIS NAUGUS BATTLING MAMMOTH MOGUL, SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, AND EVERY A-RANKED TARGET, FATHER.
A.D.A.M., I--!
...
I JUST CAME UP WITH A DELIGHTFUL CONTINGENCY PLAN.

I'M READY IN NEW MEGAOPOLIS...
NOW I CAN FULLY ENJOY THE BATTLES IN KNOTHOLE CITY!
ARGH! HOW DO YOU MANAGE TO TRUMP EACH ELEMENTAL SPELL I CAST?!
I WILL CONCEDE YOUR PROFICIENCY IN THE ARCANE ARTS IS EXCELLENT--
--HOWEVER, YOU STILL PALE IN COMPARISON WITH MY OWN MASTERY OF THE IXIAN MAGICKS.
N-NO! I PERFECTED THE CRYSTALLINE MAGICKS!
A TRULY ADVANCED TECHNIQUE FOR AN IXIS MAGICIAN, BUT YOU HAVE RELIED TOO HEAVILY ON YOUR ZONE OF SILENCE.
THEN PERHAPS I CAN PERSUADE YOU OTHERWISE? SOMEONE OF YOUR POWER WOULD MAKE A FINE PAWN WHEN PROPERLY POSSESSED!
NAUGUS...
...DO NOT PRETEND TO BE OF MY MENTAL CALIBER.
MOGUL IS JUST TOYING WITH HIM. I THINK I KNOW WHERE THIS IS GOING. WE MUST GET ONE OF THE ARTIFACTS WHILE WE CAN.
AYE. GO FOR THE SWORD OF ACORNS. I SHALL PROTECT YOU.


CLANG!
HAVE AT THEE!
NETTLESOME PALADIN.
THUNK!
AUHK! NO!
LOYALIST TO A DEAD TRINITY OF WOULD-BE GODS --YOU ARE RELICS I HAVE NO NEED FOR.
WHOA! HEY, KNUX, HEADS UP!
WOULD YOU MIND NOT DYING? TAILS IS FOND OF HAVING A FAMILY AGAIN!
SIR CONNERY! GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
UGH.. YOU, TOO, LAD.


Y-YOU...
YOU WITH A MASTERY OF THE IXIS MAGICKS... YOU WHO CALLED IT YOUR ORDER... CAN IT BE? ARE YOU TRULY...?
YES, BUT THAT WAS LONG, LONG AGO.
"I ONCE RULED MOBIUS, BUT WITH AN IGNORANT CONTROL OF MY POWER. AN IGNORANCE THAT LED TO MY DOWNFALL.*"
*MECHA MADNESS SPECIAL.
"I LEARNED THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF MY POWER. --THE VERY ESSENCE OF NATURE--AND GREW WISE AND POWERFUL."
"SUCH POWER DREW THE ATTENTION OF OTHER EAGER MINDS AND THOSE WHO WOULD SERVE ME."
"BUT MY ORDER OF IXIS WAS NOT MEANT TO BE."
"OUR BID FOR WORLD DOMINATION WAS CRUSHED DURING THE FORGOTTEN WAR WITH THE ALBION KNIGHTS OF AURORA."
"I THOUGHT ALL OF MY FOLLOWERS HAD BEEN ERADICATED IN THAT CONFRONTATION. I SEE THAT AT LEAST ONE HAS REMAINED."
THEN IT'S TRUE! YOUR POWER, YOUR KNOWLEDGE, IT MUST MEAN...!
YES, NAUGUS, I WAS ONCE KNOWN AS IXIS MOGUL.

THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING! TO ME, CHILDREN OF ARACHNIS!
DESTRUCTIX! STAND DOWN AND REGROUP!
GREAT! NOW WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?
YOU OKAY, BLUE?
WHAT'S GOING ON, UNCLE MERLIN?
THE PAST HAS COME BACK TO HAUNT US, TAILS. THE ANCIENT ORDER OF IXIS IS RETURNING AFTER THOUSANDS OF YEARS.
WHATEVER THEY'RE DOING, WE'LL STOP THEM. GEOFFREY ST. JOHN IS RALLYING THE PALACE GUARD.
PEACHY.
AWESOME, AS ALWAYS. HOW ABOUT YOU, FI?
FEAR NOT. THEY...THEY WILL BE VANQUISHED.
IXIS MOGUL, MASTER OF THE DARK ORDER. I SUBMIT MYSELF TO YOUR WISDOM, SO THAT I MAY GROW AS POWERFUL AS YOU.
A NOBLE, IF FUTILE AMBITION, MY NEW SUBORDINATE.
ELIAS, I HATE TO SAY THIS, MAN, BUT I THINK YOUR STUFF JUST GOT A LOT HARDER TO GET BACK.

NOW THEN, GENTLEMEN... WHO'S UP FOR SOME REVENGE?
PHASE TWO-- COMPLETE!
To Be CONCLUDED...

SONIC RIDERS
PART 1 OF 2
HA!
C'MON YA STUPID BOTS!
CAN'T YOU GO ANY FASTER THAN THAT?
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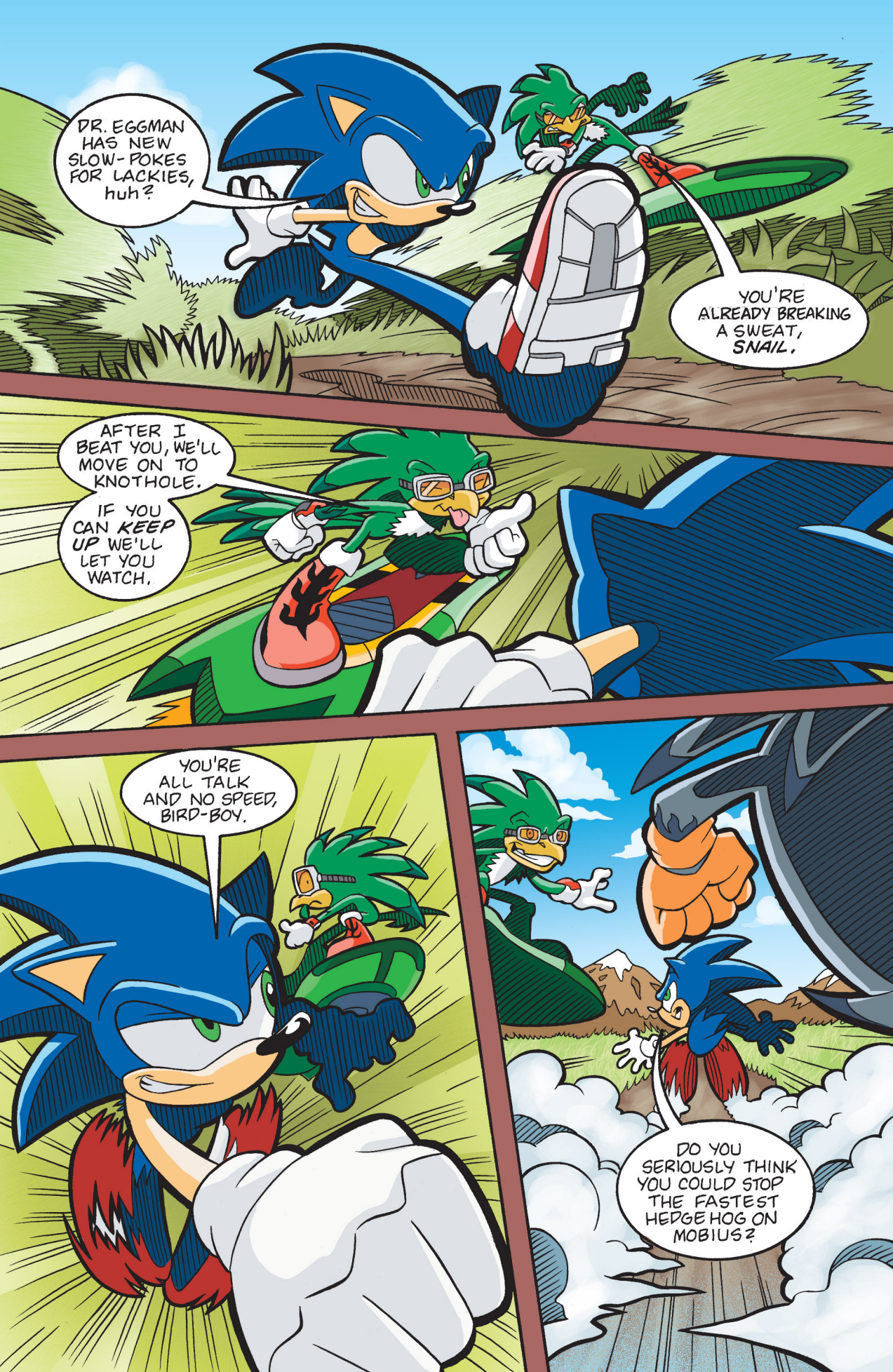
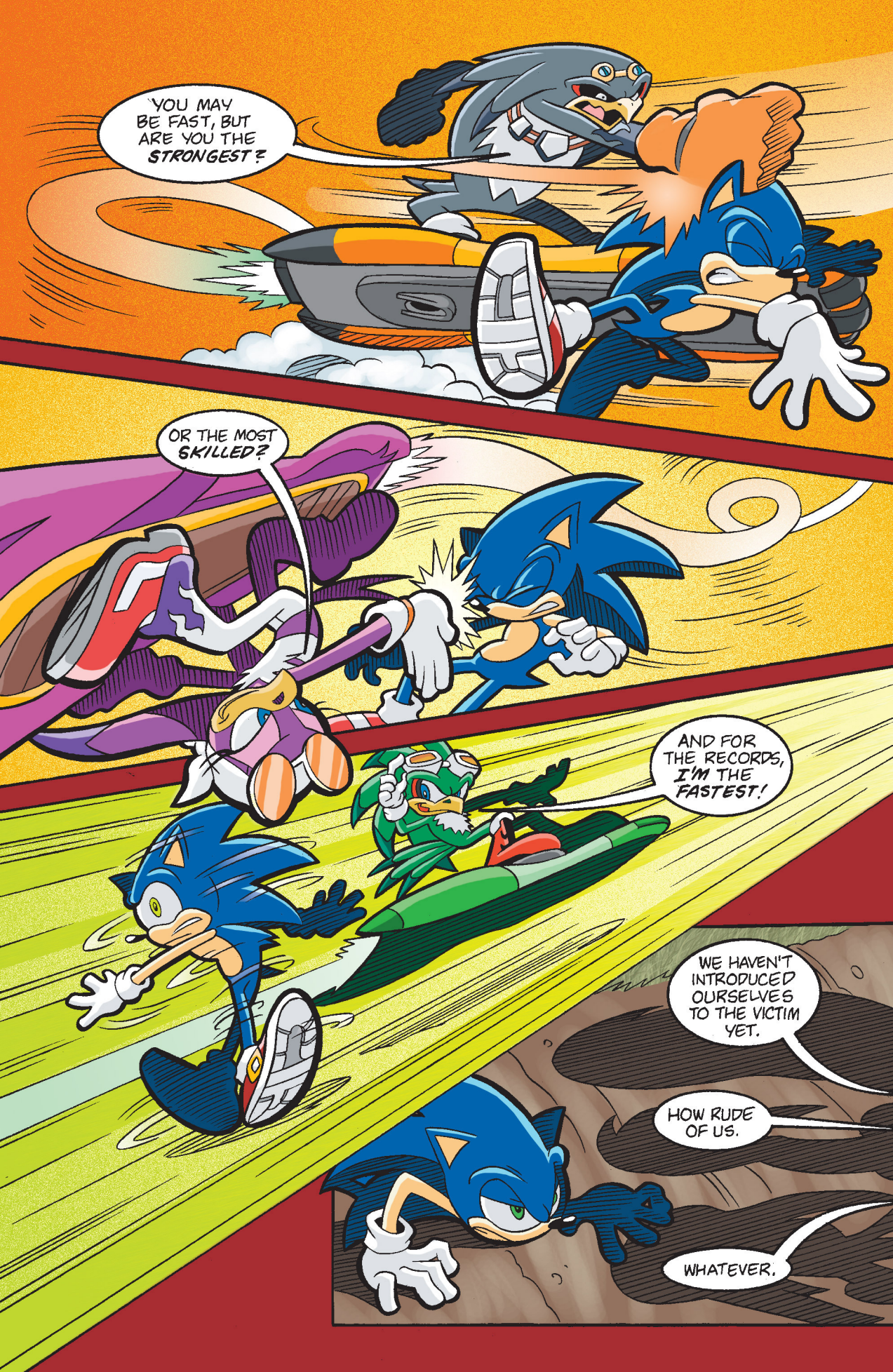
SPECIAL THANKS TO ROBERT LEFFLER AND DYNA LOPEZ AT SEGA LICENSING AND TEAM SONIC
AUGH!
CLANG
WELL DONE, MY EGG MECHAS! NOW BRING THE THIEF TO ME!

SO YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD STEAL MY VAPOR ACCELERATOR, DID YOU?
I SUPPOSE YOU PLANNED TO UPGRADE YOUR AIR BOARD?
HEY, TIMES HAVE BEEN TOUGH SINCE I QUIT THE ARMADA.
THIS IS A REMARKABLE DEVICE! YOU WERE GOING AS FAST AS SONIC ON THIS!
IF ONLY HE'D RUN INTO AN EGG HAMMER...
WHO'S THIS SONIC GUY?
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG? FASTEST THING ALIVE? HERO OF MOBIUS?
NEVER HEARD OF THE FRAUD.
I'M THE FASTEST GUY AROUND. AND I'LL MAKE SURE THIS SONIC GUY REMEMBERS IT.
I LIKE THAT ATTITUDE.
TELL YOU WHAT-- YOU WORK FOR ME AND ROUGH UP SONIC, AND I WON'T KILL YOU, DEAL?
SOUNDS LIKE A PLAN.
CAN I BRING SOME FRIENDS?

ALRIGHT!
NICOLE SAID THE SENSORS PICKED UP THE INTRUDER A FEW MILES FROM FREEDOM HQ.
THAT MEANS HE OUGHT TO BE SOMEWHERE AROUND--
HERE, MAYBE?
YOU DON'T LOOK SO FAST.
WANNA BET?


DR. EGGMAN HAS NEW SLOW-POKES FOR LACKIES, huh?
YOU'RE ALREADY BREAKING A SWEAT, SNAIL.
AFTER I BEAT YOU, WE'LL MOVE ON TO KNOTHOLE.
IF YOU CAN KEEP UP WE'LL LET YOU WATCH.
YOU'RE ALL TALK AND NO SPEED, BIRD-BOY.
DO YOU SERIOUSLY THINK YOU COULD STOP THE FASTEST HEDGEHOG ON MOBIUS?


YOU MAY BE FAST, BUT ARE YOU THE STRONGEST?
OR THE MOST SKILLED?
AND FOR THE RECORDS, I'M THE FASTEST!
WE HAVEN'T INTRODUCED OURSELVES TO THE VICTIM YET.
HOW RUDE OF US.
WHATEVER.

JET THE HAWK.
STORM THE ALBATROSS.
WAVE THE SWALLOW.
WE'RE THE BABYLON ROGUES.
NEXT MONTH: HOW CAN SONIC KEEP UP WITH THE BABYLON ROGUES? MAYBE WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM HIS FRIENDS!

LOOK FOR SONIC X #10 ON SALE THIS JUNE! THEN COME BACK FOR SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #164 ON SALE THIS AUGUST!

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